

Nurse Aide/Nursing Assistant  
**PRACTICE TEST**  
Written Knowledge Competency Test

**Notice:** This Practice Test is provided as a courtesy to individuals who are preparing to take their Prometric Nurse Aide Competency Examination. You are reminded that how well you do on these practice questions, does not predict results on your actual examination.

**Directions:** This test contains 50 questions. Each question has four suggested answers, (A), (B), (C) or (D). For each question, choose the ONE that best answers it.

1. A resident often carries a doll with her, treating it like her baby. One day she is wandering around crying that she can't find her baby. The nurse aide should
  - (A) ask the resident where she last had the doll.
  - (B) ask the activity department if they have any other dolls.
  - (C) offer comfort to the resident and help her look for her baby.
  - (D) let the other staff know the resident is very confused and should be watched closely.
  
2. A nurse aide is asked to change a urinary drainage bag attached to an indwelling urinary catheter. The nurse aide has never done this before. The best response by the nurse aide is to
  - (A) change the indwelling catheter at the same time.
  - (B) ask another nurse aide to change the urinary drainage bag.
  - (C) change the bag asking for help only if the nurse aide has problems.
  - (D) ask a nurse to watch the nurse aide change the bag since it is the first time.
  
3. Before feeding a resident, which of the following is the best reason to wash the resident's hands?
  - (A) The resident may still touch his/her mouth or food.
  - (B) It reduces the risk of spreading airborne diseases.
  - (C) It improves resident morale and appetite.
  - (D) The resident needs to keep meal routines.
  
4. Which of the following is a job task performed by the nurse aide?
  - (A) Participating in resident care planning conferences
  - (B) Taking a telephone order from a physician
  - (C) Giving medications to assigned residents
  - (D) Changing sterile wound dressings

5. Which of the following statements is true about range of motion (ROM) exercises?
- (A) Done just once a day
  - (B) Help prevent strokes and paralysis
  - (C) Require at least ten repetitions of each exercise
  - (D) Are often performed during ADLs such as bathing or dressing
6. While the nurse aide tries to dress a resident who is confused, the resident keeps trying to grab a hairbrush. The nurse aide should
- (A) put the hairbrush away and out of sight.
  - (B) give the resident the hairbrush to hold.
  - (C) try to dress the resident more quickly.
  - (D) restrain the resident's hand.
7. A resident who is lying in bed suddenly becomes short of breath. After calling for help, the nurse aide's next action should be to
- (A) ask the resident to take deep breaths.
  - (B) take the resident's vital signs.
  - (C) raise the head of the bed.
  - (D) elevate the resident's feet.
8. A resident who has cancer is expected to die within the next couple of days. Nursing care for this resident should focus on
- (A) helping the resident through the stages of grief.
  - (B) providing for the resident's comfort.
  - (C) keeping the resident's care routine, such as for bathing.
  - (D) giving the resident a lot of quiet time and privacy.
9. While giving a bedbath, the nurse aide hears the alarm from a nearby door suddenly go off. The nurse aide should
- (A) wait a few minutes to see if the alarm stops.
  - (B) report the alarm to the charge nurse immediately.
  - (C) make the resident being bathed safe and go check the door right away.
  - (D) stop the bedbath and go check on the location of all assigned residents.
10. Gloves should be worn for which of the following procedures?
- (A) Emptying a urinary drainage bag
  - (B) Brushing a resident's hair
  - (C) Ambulating a resident
  - (D) Feeding a resident

11. When walking a resident, a gait or transfer belt is often
- (A) worn around the nurse aide's waist for back support.
  - (B) used to keep the resident positioned properly in the wheelchair.
  - (C) used to help stand the resident, and then removed before walking.
  - (D) put around the resident's waist to provide a way to hold onto the resident.
12. Which of the following statements is true about residents who are restrained?
- (A) They are at greater risk for developing pressure sores.
  - (B) They are at lower risk of developing pneumonia.
  - (C) Their posture and alignment are improved.
  - (D) They are not at risk for falling.
13. A resident has diabetes. Which of the following is a common sign of a low blood sugar?
- (A) Fever
  - (B) Shakiness
  - (C) Thirst
  - (D) Vomiting
14. When providing foot care to a resident it is important for the nurse aide to
- (A) remove calluses and corns.
  - (B) check the feet for skin breakdown.
  - (C) keep the water cool to prevent burns.
  - (D) apply lotion, including between the toes.
15. When feeding a resident, frequent coughing can be a sign the resident is
- (A) choking.
  - (B) getting full.
  - (C) needs to drink more fluids.
  - (D) having difficulty swallowing.
16. When a person is admitted to the nursing home, the nurse aide should expect that the resident will
- (A) have problems related to incontinence.
  - (B) require a lot of assistance with personal care.
  - (C) experience a sense of loss related to the life change.
  - (D) adjust more quickly if admitted directly from the hospital.

17. A resident gets dressed and comes out of his room wearing shoes that are from two different pairs. The nurse aide should
- (A) tease the resident by complimenting the resident's sense of style.
  - (B) ask if the resident realizes that the shoes do not match.
  - (C) remind the resident that the nurse aide can dress the resident.
  - (D) ask if the resident lost some of his shoes.
18. A resident's wife recently died. The resident is now staying in his room all the time and eating very little. The best response by the nurse aide is to
- (A) remind the resident to be thankful for the years he shared with his wife.
  - (B) tell the resident that he needs to get out of his room at least once a day.
  - (C) understand the resident is grieving and give him chances to talk.
  - (D) avoid mentioning his wife when caring for him.
19. When a resident refuses a bedbath, the nurse aide should
- (A) offer the resident a bribe.
  - (B) wait awhile and then ask the resident again.
  - (C) remind the resident that people who smell don't have friends.
  - (D) tell the resident that nursing home policy requires daily bathing.
20. When a resident is combative and trying to hit the nurse aide, it is important for the nurse aide to
- (A) show the resident that the nurse aide is in control.
  - (B) call for help to make sure there are witnesses.
  - (C) explain that if the resident is not calm a restraint may be applied.
  - (D) step back to protect self from harm while speaking in a calm manner.
21. During lunch in the dining room, a resident begins yelling and throws a spoon at the nurse aide. The best response by the nurse aide is to
- (A) remain calm and ask what is upsetting the resident.
  - (B) begin removing all the other residents from the dining room.
  - (C) scold the resident and ask the resident to leave the dining room immediately.
  - (D) remove the resident's plate, fork, knife, and cup so there is nothing else to throw.

22. Which of the following questions asked to the resident is most likely to encourage conversation?
- (A) Are you feeling tired today?
  - (B) Do you want to wear this outfit?
  - (C) What are your favorite foods?
  - (D) Is this water warm enough?
23. When trying to communicate with a resident who speaks a different language than the nurse aide, the nurse aide should
- (A) use pictures and gestures.
  - (B) face the resident and speak softly when talking.
  - (C) repeat words often if the resident does not understand.
  - (D) assume when the resident nods his/her head that the message is understood.
24. While walking down the hall, a nurse aide looks into a resident's room and sees another nurse aide hitting a resident. The nurse aide is expected to
- (A) contact the state agency that inspects the nursing facility.
  - (B) enter the room immediately to provide for the resident's safety.
  - (C) wait to confront the nurse aide when he/she leaves the resident's room.
  - (D) check the resident for any signs of injury after the nurse aide leaves the room.
25. Before touching a resident who is crying to offer comfort, the nurse aide should consider
- (A) the resident's recent vital signs.
  - (B) the resident's cultural background.
  - (C) whether the resident has been sad recently.
  - (D) whether the resident has family that visits routinely.
26. When a resident is expressing anger, the nurse aide should
- (A) correct the resident's misperceptions.
  - (B) ask the resident to speak in a kinder tone.
  - (C) listen closely to the resident's concerns.
  - (D) remind the resident that everyone gets angry.
27. When giving a backrub, the nurse aide should
- (A) apply lotion to the back directly from the bottle.
  - (B) keep the resident covered as much as possible.
  - (C) leave extra lotion on the skin when completing the procedure.
  - (D) expect the resident to lie on his/her stomach.

28. A nurse aide finds a resident looking in the refrigerator at the nurses' station at 5 a.m. The resident, who is confused, explains he needs breakfast before he leaves for work. The best response by the nurse aide is to
- (A) help the resident back to his room and into bed.
  - (B) ask the resident about his job and if he is hungry.
  - (C) tell him that residents are not allowed in the nurses' station.
  - (D) remind him that he is retired from his job and in a nursing home.
29. Which of the following is true about caring for a resident who wears a hearing aid?
- (A) Apply hairspray after the hearing aid is in place.
  - (B) Remove the hearing aid before showering.
  - (C) Clean the earmold and battery case with water daily, drying completely.
  - (D) Replace batteries weekly.
30. Residents with Parkinson's disease often require assistance with walking because they
- (A) become confused and forget how to take steps without help.
  - (B) have poor attention skills and do not notice safety problems.
  - (C) have visual problems that require special glasses.
  - (D) have a shuffling walk and tremors.
31. A resident who is inactive is at risk of constipation. In addition to increased activity and exercise, which of the following actions helps to prevent constipation?
- (A) Adequate fluid intake
  - (B) Regular mealtimes
  - (C) High protein diet
  - (D) Low fiber diet
32. A resident has an indwelling urinary catheter. While making rounds, the nurse aide notices that there is no urine in the drainage bag. The nurse aide should first
- (A) ask the resident to try urinating.
  - (B) offer the resident fluid to drink.
  - (C) check for kinks in the tubing.
  - (D) obtain a new urinary drainage bag.
33. A resident who is incontinent of urine has an increased risk of developing
- (A) dementia.
  - (B) urinary tract infections.
  - (C) pressure sores.
  - (D) dehydration.

34. When cleansing the genital area during perineal care, the nurse aide should
- (A) cleanse the penis with a circular motion starting from the base and moving toward the tip.
  - (B) replace the foreskin when pushed back to cleanse an uncircumcised penis.
  - (C) cleanse the rectal area first, before cleansing the genital area.
  - (D) use the same area on the washcloth for each washing and rinsing stroke for a female resident.
35. Which of the following is considered a normal age-related change?
- (A) Dementia
  - (B) Contractures
  - (C) Bladder holding less urine
  - (D) Wheezing when breathing
36. A resident is on a bladder retraining program. The nurse aide can expect the resident to
- (A) have a fluid intake restriction to prevent sudden urges to urinate.
  - (B) wear an incontinent brief in case of an accident.
  - (C) have an indwelling urinary catheter.
  - (D) have a schedule for toileting.
37. A resident who has stress incontinence
- (A) will have an indwelling urinary catheter.
  - (B) should wear an incontinent brief at night.
  - (C) may leak urine when laughing or coughing.
  - (D) needs toileting every 1-2 hours throughout the day.
38. The doctor has told the resident that his cancer is growing and that he is dying. When the resident tells the nurse aide that there is a mistake, the nurse aide should
- (A) understand that denial is a normal reaction.
  - (B) remind the resident the doctor would not lie.
  - (C) suggest the resident ask for more tests.
  - (D) ask if the resident is afraid of dying.
39. A slipknot is used when securing a restraint so that
- (A) the restraint cannot be removed by the resident.
  - (B) the restraint can be removed quickly when needed.
  - (C) body alignment is maintained while wearing the restraint.
  - (D) it can be easily observed whether the restraint is applied correctly.

40. When using personal protective equipment (PPE) the nurse aide correctly follows Standard Precautions when wearing
- (A) double gloves when providing perineal care to a resident.
  - (B) a mask and gown while feeding a resident that coughs.
  - (C) gloves to remove a resident's bedpan.
  - (D) gloves while ambulating a resident.
41. To help prevent resident falls, the nurse aide should
- (A) always raise siderails when any resident is in his/her bed.
  - (B) leave residents' beds at the lowest level when care is complete.
  - (C) encourage residents to wear larger-sized, loose-fitting clothing.
  - (D) remind residents who use call lights that they need to wait patiently for staff.
42. As the nurse aide begins his/her assignment, which of the following should the nurse aide do first?
- (A) Collect linen supplies for the shift
  - (B) Check all the nurse aide's assigned residents
  - (C) Assist a resident that has called for assistance to get off the toilet
  - (D) Start bathing a resident that has physical therapy in one hour
43. Which of the following would affect a nurse aide's status on the state's nurse aide registry and also cause the nurse aide to be ineligible to work in a nursing home?
- (A) Having been terminated from another facility for repeated tardiness
  - (B) Missing a mandatory infection control inservice training program
  - (C) Failing to show for work without calling to report the absence
  - (D) Having a finding for resident neglect
44. To help prevent the spread of germs between patients, nurse aides should
- (A) wear gloves when touching residents.
  - (B) hold supplies and linens away from their uniforms.
  - (C) wash hands for at least two minutes after each resident contact.
  - (D) warn residents that holding hands spreads germs.
45. When a sink has hand-control faucets, the nurse aide should use
- (A) a paper towel to turn the water on.
  - (B) a paper towel to turn the water off.
  - (C) an elbow, if possible, to turn the faucet controls on and off.
  - (D) bare hands to turn the faucet controls both on and off.



46. When moving a resident up in bed who is able to move with assistance, the nurse aide should
- (A) position self with knees straight and bent at waist.
  - (B) use a gait or transfer belt to assist with the repositioning.
  - (C) pull the resident up holding onto one side of the drawsheet at a time.
  - (D) bend the resident's knees and ask the resident to push with his/her feet.
47. The resident's weight is obtained routinely as a way to check the resident's
- (A) growth and development.
  - (B) adjustment to the facility.
  - (C) nutrition and health.
  - (D) activity level.
48. Which of the following is a right that is included in the Resident's Bill of Rights?
- (A) To have staff available that speak different languages on each shift
  - (B) To have payment plan options that are based on financial need
  - (C) To have religious services offered at the facility daily
  - (D) To make decisions and participate in own care
49. Which of the following, if observed as a sudden change in the resident, is considered a possible warning sign of a stroke?
- (A) Dementia
  - (B) Contractures
  - (C) Slurred speech
  - (D) Irregular heartbeat
50. Considering the resident's activity, which of the following sets of vital signs should be reported to the charge nurse immediately?
- (A) Resting: 98.6°-98-32
  - (B) After eating: 97.0°-64-24
  - (C) After walking exercise: 98.2°-98-28
  - (D) While watching television: 98.8°-72-14

| Question | Correct Response |
|----------|------------------|
| 1        | C                |
| 2        | D                |
| 3        | A                |
| 4        | A                |
| 5        | D                |
| 6        | B                |
| 7        | C                |
| 8        | B                |
| 9        | C                |
| 10       | A                |
| 11       | D                |
| 12       | A                |
| 13       | B                |
| 14       | B                |
| 15       | D                |
| 16       | C                |
| 17       | B                |
| 18       | C                |
| 19       | B                |
| 20       | D                |
| 21       | A                |
| 22       | C                |
| 23       | A                |
| 24       | B                |
| 25       | B                |

| Question | Correct Response |
|----------|------------------|
| 26       | C                |
| 27       | B                |
| 28       | B                |
| 29       | B                |
| 30       | D                |
| 31       | A                |
| 32       | C                |
| 33       | C                |
| 34       | B                |
| 35       | C                |
| 36       | D                |
| 37       | C                |
| 38       | A                |
| 39       | B                |
| 40       | C                |
| 41       | B                |
| 42       | C                |
| 43       | D                |
| 44       | B                |
| 45       | B                |
| 46       | D                |
| 47       | C                |
| 48       | D                |
| 49       | C                |
| 50       | A                |